

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A job executing system in which, with respect to a same processing object, designated jobs are executed in a time series, comprising:

job management means for managing an input-related candidate job which executes chiefly input processing, and an output-related candidate job which executes chiefly output processing; and

- job synthesizing means for generating, according to a user's operation, a synthetic job constituted by an input-related candidate job which has been already executed, and an output-related candidate job which will be executed hereafter.

2. The job executing system according to claim 1, in which a graphical user interface environment is provided, wherein there is provided screen displaying means for displaying, on a screen, interactive figure elements each indicative of its associated candidate job; and

according to user's operations to some of the interactive figure elements, their associated candidate jobs are synthesized so as to obtain a synthetic job.

3. The job executing system according to claim 2, wherein when the number of the input-related candidate jobs is two or more, the input-related candidate jobs are associated

with their respective input means; and

when the number of the output-related candidate jobs is two or more, the output-related candidate jobs are associated with their respective output means.

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4. The job executing system according to claim 2, wherein there is provided standard setting information management means for accumulating and managing standard output setting information indicative of a standard attribute of the output-related candidate job; and

10 according to a user's operation, the synthetic job thus obtained is executed while using the standard output setting information.

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5. The job executing system according to claim 3, in which, by means of user's operations to interactive figure elements, selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an input-related candidate job and selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an output-related candidate job are sequentially conducted to generate a synthetic job, wherein

20 there is provided synthesis possibility judging means for judging, on the basis of a relationship between a characteristic of the input means thus associated and a characteristic of the output means thus associated, whether or not a synthesis can be conducted between an input-related or output-related job which has been already selected, and an

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output-related or input-related job which is intended to be selected by a user's operation; and

when the synthesis possibility judging means judges that the synthesis cannot be conducted, a change is made to a display of the interactive figure element indicative of the output-related or input-related candidate job which is intended to be selected.

6. The job executing system according to claim 3, in which, by means of user's operations to interactive figure elements, selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an input-related candidate job and selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an output-related candidate job are sequentially conducted to generate a synthetic job, wherein there is provided a limitation content examining means for examining, on the basis of a relationship between a characteristic of the input means thus associated and a characteristic of the output means thus associated, a content of a limitation imposed when a synthesis is conducted between an input-related or output-related candidate job which has been already selected, and an output-related or input-related candidate job which is intended to be selected by a user's operation; and

according to an examination result made by the limitation content examining means, a change is made to a display of the interactive figure element indicative of the output-related or input-related candidate job which is

intended to be selected.

7. The job executing system according to claim 3, in which,
5 by means of user's operations to interactive figure elements,
selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an
input-related candidate job and selection of an interactive
figure element indicative of an output-related candidate job
are sequentially conducted to generate a synthetic job, wherein
10 based on an operating state of the output means, a change
is made a display of the interactive figure element indicative
of the output-related or input-related candidate job, which
is intended to be selected by a user's operation.

15 8. A job executing method in which, with respect to a same
processing object, designated jobs are executed in a time
series, comprising:

managing an input-related candidate job which executes
20 chiefly input processing, and an output-related candidate job
which executes chiefly output processing; and

generating, according to a user's operation, a
synthetic job constituted by an input-related candidate job
which has been already executed, and an output-related
25 candidate job which will be executed hereafter.

9. The job executing method according to claim 9, in which

a graphical user interface environment is provided, wherein
there is provided a step of displaying, on a screen,
interactive figure elements each indicative of its associated
candidate job; and

5 according to user's operations to some of the
interactive figure elements, their associated candidate jobs
are synthesized so as to obtain a synthetic job.

10 10. The job executing method according to claim 9, wherein
when the number of the input-related candidate jobs is
two or more, the input-related candidate jobs are associated
with their respective input means; and

when the number of the output-related candidate jobs
15 is two or more, the output-related candidate jobs are
associated with their respective output means.

11. The job executing method according to claim 9, wherein
20 there is provided a step of accumulating and managing
standard output setting information indicative of a standard
attribute of the output-related candidate job; and

according to a user's operation, the synthetic job thus
obtained is executed while using the standard output setting
25 information.

12. The job executing method according to claim 10, in which,

by means of user's operations to interactive figure elements,
selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an
input-related candidate job and selection of an interactive
figure element indicative of an output-related candidate job
5 are sequentially conducted to generate a synthetic job, wherein
a judgment is made, on the basis of a relationship
between a characteristic of the input means thus associated
and a characteristic of the output means thus associated, as
to whether or not a synthesis can be conducted between an
10 input-related or output-related job which has been already
selected, and an output-related or input-related job which is
intended to be selected by a user's operation, and
when a judgment that the synthesis cannot be conducted
is made, a change is made to a display of the interactive figure
15 element indicative of the output-related or input-related
candidate job which is intended to be selected.

13. The job executing method according to claim 10, in which,
20 by means of user's operations to interactive figure elements,
selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an
input-related candidate job and selection of an interactive
figure element indicative of an output-related candidate job
are sequentially conducted to generate a synthetic job, wherein
25 there is provided a step of examining, on the basis of
a relationship between a characteristic of the input means thus
associated and a characteristic of the output means thus
associated, a content of a limitation imposed when a synthesis

is conducted between an input-related or output-related candidate job which has been already selected, and an output-related or input-related candidate job which is intended to be selected by a user's operation; and

5 according to an examination result made at the step, a change is made to a display of the interactive figure element indicative of the output-related or input-related candidate job which is intended to be selected.

10 14. The job executing method according to claim 10, in which, by means of user's operations to interactive figure elements, selection of an interactive figure element indicative of an input-related candidate job and selection of an interactive
15 figure element indicative of an output-related candidate job are sequentially conducted to generate a synthetic job, wherein,

 based on an operating state of the output means, a change
is made to a display of the interactive figure element
20 indicative of the output-related or input-related candidate
job which is intended to be selected by a user's operation.